

L'Edge

Newspaper of the National Christian Youth Convention, Adelaide

Issue No 17 Saturday, January 14, 1995



NCYC'95
(The National Christian
Youth Convention)
is an activity of the
Uniting Church in Australia.

L'Edge was a monthly
publication. It is now being
produced daily during
NCYC'95 — with the help
of *New Times*.

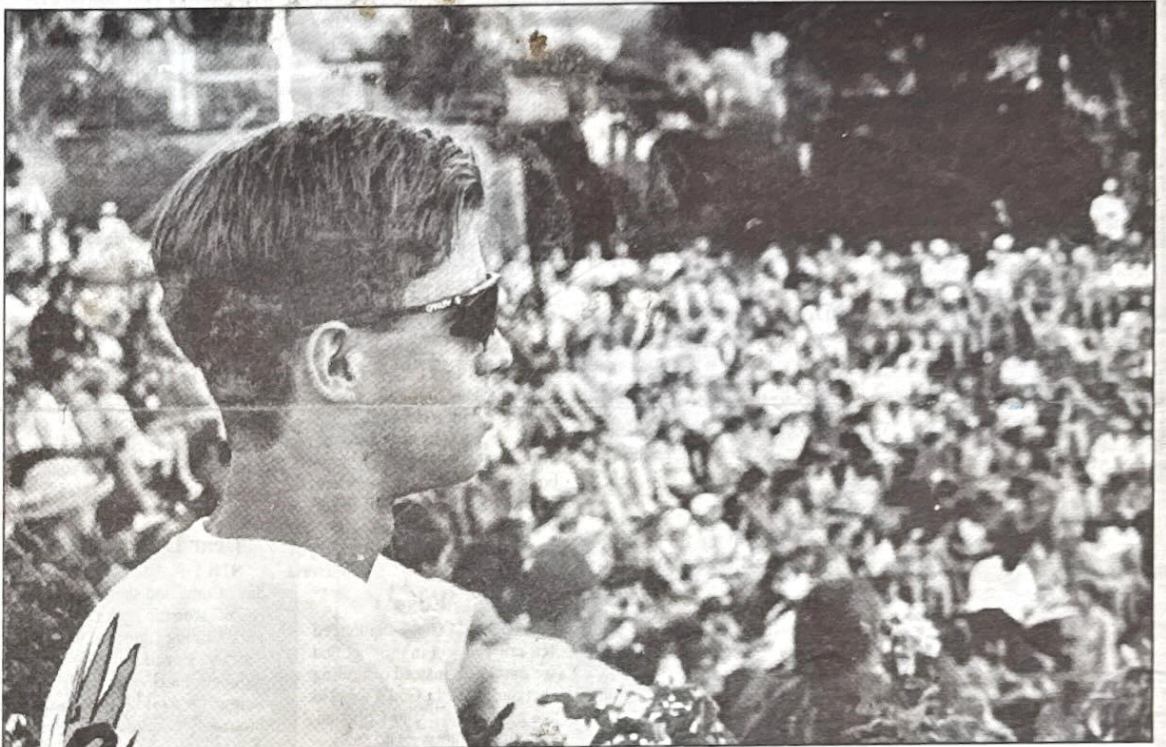
L'Edge is published by
NCYC'95
Uniting Church,
Synod of South Australia,
First Floor, 33 Pirie Street,
Adelaide SA 5000.

NCYC '95 MISSION STATEMENT

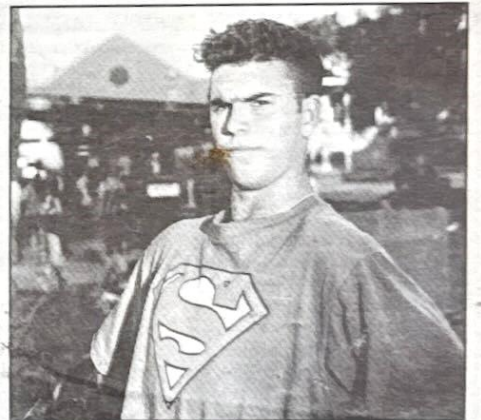
"To construct a community
which so reflects the
Kingdom of God that
people will be changed."



memories...



...light the corners of my mind...



...misty water colour memories...



Weather

.... max 39°!!! min 28°.... continuing hot and sultry
Dave's predictions: Kalgoorlie tidal reports: 3-02pm - 0-65m; 7-46pm - 1m

ledge

Letters to The Editor

Letters can be submitted at the Convention Centre (Near Edgework Shop) or Scotch College (L'Edgends Information Stand). Please keep them to around 200 words and supply us with your name and community.

Dear L'Eds

WE ARE writing to say we think that as Christians we should be doing more to stop the suffering of animals. They are part of God's creation who feel pain and fear and should not be subjected to cruel intensive farming methods.

People treat cows, sheep, chickens etc. as though their lives are worth nothing, but anyone who has kept them as pets will tell you that they have their own individual personalities just like a dog or a cat. It is too easy for people to just ignore the fact that the steak on their plate was once a living feeling animal that suffered a painful, frightening death just because someone was brought up to believe that we have to eat meat to be healthy.

By the way did you know that the same sized piece of land can feed 60 people on a diet of just vegetable products or just two people on a diet of meat?

Naomi Matlby and Mark Collard

Dear L'Eds

WE, THE members of the Gaol community have recently been greatly disturbed by the way the "Almost the Grand Prix" race was conducted.

We think this is just one more example of the abuse society inflicts upon the deprived victims of the Australian Corrective Services.

The Gaol community has been working towards the race since our formation. We were going to use this race as an example of our true usefulness to society. We were expecting a fair and equal race against our competitors but we found that prejudice from the other affluent communities appalling.

Not only was the Gaol community (the rightful winners) forced to run 21 times the distance but also were subjected to unfair and unsportsman-like behaviour, eg. tackling, water bombing, tripping, hassling and abusive language. There was also a demonstration of extreme bias towards the Lincoln team which was allowed re-entry into the final after losing its heat.

Also the commentator and judge showed an open bias towards the Lincoln team (of which he was a member) and openly harassed and abused us and other competitors.

If this protest goes unnoticed and the rightful winners (The Gaol) are not recognised, riots may proceed from a community that has lost all faith in society.

The Gaol community

Dear L'Eds

"WHY is the Hot House hot?" Because it focuses on real life issues. Hot Houses were designed:

1. To help people think about a few of the important issues in the life of a Christian.
2. To be exposed to a diversity of thought and opinions about these issues.
3. To be a forum for discussion, thinking and action. It is not the final word on any of the subjects.

The organising committee does not and did not endorse material given out after the Hot House (in particular *strong Advice for Teens*, by L. Craig A Blackburn).

Yours in a heat of haze.

Bob Hutchinson

Director, Hot House

PS: #11 of your Top 10, we are always open to financial donations!!

Dear L'Eds

I REALLY enjoyed the Steve Grace concert last night and I think (plus my friends) that we should have these sort of concerts at every NCYC festival.

Bruce Carter

Small Group, Aquinas

Dear L'Eds

IT WAS very saddening for me to read the jargon in the music ads for the Festival about "Australia's top Christian rock artist". When the muso on stage did an ad for the "top/best worker in High Schools" it was just too much.

When will we get serious about Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12 about the Body of Christ. It challenges our hierarchy talk. There isn't "top" and therefore "bottom" of the pile. We are all significant parts of the Body. Some of the most unlikely are the most effective musos as workers depending on the setting.

I suggest it's time to bring the rhetoric we soak ourselves in into the nuts and bolts of our lives, else we look like clones of commerce and crap rather than believers who are fair dinkum about the Bible.

George Davies

Lincoln

Dear L'Eds

WE WERE appalled by the letters in Thursday's issue concerning Duffy's apparently non inclusive language, ie. use of *man* and *mankind*.

Under some circumstances we may also be upset by such jargon, but we appreciate Duffy's recognition of apparent sexism. The "five minute spiel to justify their use" was more than adequate.

Our only hope is that those concerned few managed to see beyond the trivial nature of their protest and find the truly inspiring message that Duffy shared with us.

Four signatures

Mawson Community



Dear L'Eds

THE other day on Monday, at the house called hot, they all talked about "Jesus, the only way or not?"—The panel seemed to all agree, on what I am not sure, comments neither black or white, not one but two or more.

The next day on Tuesday, discussion was complex. The meaning of marriage — the subject of sex. Some didn't see the need, to combine the two, more concerned with hormones, than a godly view. One on the panel put it well, some agreed with a nod, Jesus called us to holiness for the Kingdom of God.

Sharing, discussion and debate — there sure was a lot, as they met day by day, in the house called hot. To the edge and beyond, the issues are alive. We are called to live God's way, from NCYC'95.

Craig Blackburn

Dear L'Eds

THANK God that near the end of Wednesday night we finally saw some of the rich and diverse ways we can worship, and some of the more developed theologies, both of which expand our views of God. God always calls us to move beyond our edges.

Rohan Pryor
Victoria

Dear L'Eds

THIS NCYC has challenged our faith but not in the way that we expected. Instead of finding that our belief in God's word as the foundation of our Christian faith is encouraged and supported, we have actually found that this belief has often been questioned by those running various programs.

We are disappointed with the ease at which many people here are able to compromise on the word of God.

1 Thes 4: 1-8 tells us that to please God we must obey the instructions given to us in the authority of the Lord Jesus through the apostles.

We believe that these instructions are as relevant and as essential today for living a pure and holy life as they were then.

Malachi 3:6 states that "I the Lord do not change". We believe that therefore neither do his instructions to us.

We are meant to be different from the world — as hard as that is. Matthew 5:13 describes us as the salt of the earth. By interpreting God's word into a 1990's context we lose our saltiness. The cost of watering down his instructions to us is that we can not experience the fullness of life that Jesus offers and we are surely displeasing God.

tions to us is that we can not experience the fullness of life that Jesus offers and we are surely displeasing God.

Three signatures
NSW

Dear L'Eds

WE ARE a number of individuals concerned about homosexuality as an issue in the Uniting Church. An elective on Monday and Thursday dealt with homosexuality being OK in the church. *Homosexuality is not OK!*

We do not judge the sinner, but we condemn the sin. Our main problem is that it has been put forward in the Uniting Church that being homosexual is okay and you'll still be saved! Check 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. If the offenders proclaim their sin is not a sin, then they are confusing the spiritual growth of the people they are leading. As a Christian people, we must stand by what God says, "not the ways of the world." Other references include Lev 18:22.

Sixteen signatures

Dear L'Eds

THANKS for a wonderful and challenging NCYC! If anyone is looking for practical opportunities to get involved on the mission edge after NCYC, the Uniting Church offers lots of possibilities from three weeks to three years, overseas or in Australia.

Contact Liz Yeo at the Uniting Church Assembly, PO Box A2266, Sydney South 2000. Phone (02) 287 0900 or your Synod Youth Consultant.

Liz Yeo

Dear L'Eds

STILL in Adelaide on Sunday? Come and share in a post-NCYC worship at Westbourne Park Uniting Church (27 Sussex Terrace, Hawthorn). The speaker will be John U'ren from the School of World Mission in Melbourne. Service starts at 7 pm.

Ken Anderson

Dear L'Eds

HAS anyone found my Kodak Camera? (Small, black with flip-up flash). It was lost in front of the main stage on Wednesday night at about 10 pm.

It's my three week old Christmas present — and it has my precious memories on film!

If you have found it please return it to the lost property office.

Leah Ambrosio
West Beach 2

Dear L'Eds

IS IT need or is it greed that governs what we take? Does our society decide for us how much money we should make? And once money is in the bank, just what do we use it for? To help those a little less fortunate or invest to make us more?

For "money makes the world go round", or so the saying goes. But what about the world of the poor, does it still go round? ... I spose?

Cars, boats, hats and coats, where do our pennies wander? How much of this is used wisely? And how much do we squander?

What does the Bible say about what we should do for others? How did Jesus respond to people like they were all his Sisters and Brothers? But in the end, in reality, the ball is in your court. So no matter how poor or rich they are, give them love that can not be bought.

Graham Armstrong

Dear L'Eds

THIS is a poem which I wrote while away on the *Mission Ignition* project in Thailand during December 1994.

It speaks of my experiences of being "on an edge" and the decision to "fly" and create a better world.

Culture Shock

Where am I? Surely this is not real/ Is this still a dream? I must pinch myself to wake up.

I cannot believe my eyes/ I must turn my head from reality/ In order to retain my sanity/ And stop my stomach from twisting and turning.

Stop the clock/ The world is moving too fast/ I want to get off now/ Before I curl into a ball and cry.

Gracious Father/ Please save the women and children who are being exploited/ Reduce the spreading of AIDS/ And nourish the starving.

When I get home/ I know that I will be a changed person/ Please help me not to forget the past/ But start developing some solutions instead.

Adam Tretheway

Dear L'Eds

SHOULD I or Shouldn't I? I feel a voice prompting me/ To go fly today/ I look over the edge

Great fear pervades in my heart/ What if I fall?/ Smashed against the rocks below.

The voice prompts again/ "My child, my child/ I will catch you if you fall/ Open yourself/ And take a step/ Fly to me."

I stamp my feet/ In apprehension/ Can I trust that voice? A response comes to my question/ "Trust and faith are the same/ And I carry this world in my arms."

Strange comfort enters my heart/ Through these simple words/ I look up instead of down/ Some of my doubts are still there/ But, my faith is renewed/ And I take a step forward.

My wings are extended/ The hot thermal air that I could not see/ Catches me, like a glove/ And I'm lifted up/ Higher and higher/ Closer towards my Lord.

Faith is an actional response/ For I responded to his prompting/ With the opening of the wings/ Within my heart/ Stepping forward and being lifted/ Higher than I ever imagined I could go.

Graeme Cheetham

L'edge



.....scattered pictures.....



.....of the way we were.....

Stay cool



Top 10

TOP 10 ARTICLES NOT PRINTED IN L'EDGE

By Lisa Chapman

1. Elvis spotted at Henley!
2. Robbins Spends Big — Duffy checks out our local toupees.
3. L'Edge team bares all! — A skinny dipping photo expose.
4. Fact or Fiction? Adelaide water goes clear.
5. Delegates snowed in at Convention Centre.
6. Fire Under Stage at Convention Centre — crowd enveloped by smoke.
7. Shocking Discovery!! Royals don't make front page!
8. Top 10 pick up line responses and insults — uncensored.
9. Fuzz Kitto — Short Back and Sides!
10. Sealed Section! — Eddie turns Playhog.

Prayer Points

- PRAISE for the way God has effected people's lives throughout the week.
- PRAY for safe travel as all delegates return to their homes.
- PRAY for the group from NSW going from NCYC to Wilcannia to participate in a work party.
- PRAY for the tech crew and the many other task groups as the dismantling and tidying-up begins.

Thank you....

Thanks to our sponsors Alta Mira FM, TransAdelaide, Westpac Bank, Australian Council for the Arts and the Uniting Church. We would also like to thank Stirling Security for offering their services during the week of NCYC.

Special thanks goes to our Chaplain, Jenny Ducker, who has been there in our most trying moments. Thanks for being their for us, Jenny.

And our final thanks go to everyone involved in NCYC. For their support, encouragement and willingness to provide us with information at inconvenient moments.

Thank you to everyone.

The L'Edge Team.

THE L'Edge Team would like to say thank you to all those who have supported us in the past two years.

We would particularly like to thank South Australian Uniting Church monthly publication, *New Times*, for letting L'Edge be part of their newspaper in the months before NCYC and helping to produce L'Edge during NCYC. We would also like to thank them for their advice and instruction.



About FACE 4. You've heard about it, and you've been nourished by it. Now is your chance to wear it! Get the About FACE 4 t-shirt for only \$20. Alternatively buy the Uniting Youth Pack for only \$45 and get an NCYC 95, NCYC 1997, and About FACE 4 t-shirt. Available (along with information) from either the About FACE 4 team or the Edge Hog Shop.

about
face 4
faith and Culture Exchange



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